

January 28, 1953

Dear Dr. Lederberg,

There are a number of things that have come up since you left. I shall take them up here point by point, and would appreciate hearing from you at your earliest convenience about them.

A Mr. Clifford called regarding a 24 cubic foot refrigerator: he wanted to deliver it right away. Since I could not conceive of a space to put it, I asked Dr. Irwin about it. He arranged with the company to store the thing in their warehouse, but does not know yet how long they can store it—perhaps only a week. Dr. Irwin said it is to go at the head of the stairs eventually. But he wants to know if you have anything to say about this matter, and asked me to tell you about it when I wrote. Unless you want it to go at the head of the stairs, and that possibly very soon, you had better let us know what you would like done, as early as possible.

Your unforwarded mail I have brought up as you requested. I should like to know the following:

- a. Is it OK to put out the reprints if they are first stamped with your name? I have already done this to all received so far, as everybody was clamoring for them, and Larry said Mrs. Lederberg had suggested that they be handled that way. If you want to know what is coming in, I can let you know.
- b. Your postcards are either reprint requests (what should be done about those, if anything?), library notes (the Med library wants Ehrlich's Studies in Immunity; I do not find it in your office; would you like for me to renew it?), or "misc" including thanks for reprints, from R. Emerson, and a card from Columbia College Fund.
- c. What about Inter-departmental University mail? I am enclosing that which has come so far, except one was a reprint request which I stuck with the others.
- d. Other stuff includes papers, magazines, etc., which are simply accumulating in a heap on the desk.

Things in lab are going smoothly. The cleaning woman has done your office so thoroughly that it really gleams. I'll get it dusted again just before you return so you can admire it, too. The lab is also being diligently scrubbed and the benches waxed and polished. The new boy is a good worker. By the way, does he have to fill out anything downstairs in the office? Coffee continues as usual, sad to say. We also had seminar on Monday, which was not particularly exciting. No particular problems have arisen until this morning.

This morning two big parcels from Arthur Thomas Co. with glassware and gelatin. There are in one box 1200 tubes 16x129mm, which are as long as our five ml tubes but fatter. Our centrifuge caps are the only ones we have that will fit them. There are also 100 tubes that are the same size as our 10 ml centrifuge tubes, but not etched on the side, and are of green glass. Both of these orders conform to the list from the purchasing department. I only mention them because they are different from anything we have, and because we need more of the 5 ml and the 10 ml centrifuge tubes. Also, there are 288 screw caps with rubber liners, which are listed 2849E, but actually are 2849B. The latter are 13 mm caps; is that what you wanted? Anyway, nothing is broken or missing. Please let me know soon if this shipment is what you wanted or not, in order that I can send the reply card to the company or correct the order.

I went to see Dr. Brandly and Dr. Wilson, and the "Infection and Immunity" course may be taken, with no loss of credit because of my earlier

course. I met Dr. Berman, and he said that the course is more infection than immunity. There will be three meetings a week, with labs following the Monday and Friday lectures.

I cannot think of any other matters that have arisen, but will write to you as they do arise.

Hope you all had an enjoyable trip and will find the climate more agreeable than the Madison deep-freeze that is current here.

Sincerely,

Helen Byers

P.S. Your class Time Table just came ; I stamped it and put it out in the reprint drawer.

also: as shareholders, both you and your wife may be advised that our coffee corporation is in the hole — 52¢. (However we are having an austerity program, as the doughnuts don't go very fast and consequently have been staler and staler recently. I guess I could make the coffee thinner for awhile, since Tom & Dave prefer it that way, anyhow. But I like it smelly and black.) You will be notified in due time regarding our progress in overcoming this deficit.

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